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JUN 27 2007

Application No.: 10/523,581

Docket No.: JCLA9035

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) or 102(b), claims 1-7 & 9 were rejected as being anticipated by Peters (US 6,828,289), claims 1-7 further rejected by Honda (US 6,268,323, hereafter as '323), Small (US 6,248,704) or Honda (US 6,103,680, hereafter as '680), claims 1-7 & 9 further rejected by Tanabe (US 5,795,702), and claims 1-8 rejected by Cioletti (US 5,266,121) or Guillou (US 5,998,349).

In response, Applicants have amended independent claim 1, amended claims 3 and 5 for the amendments to claim 1, and submitted the following remarks. The amendments to claim 1 can be supported by [0024]-[0028] of the specification. Claim 7 has also been amended and claims 10-13 derived from claims 3, 5 & 7 newly added. Reconsideration of claims 1-9 and consideration of claims 10-13 are respectfully requested.

Discussion of Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)/(e)

A feature of amended claim 1 is that the first compound as defined therein has a weight percentage of about 1% - 20% and the second compound as defined therein has a weight percentage of about 0.01% - 20%.

Each of the seven cited references, Peters, '323, Small, '680, Tanabe, Cioletti and Guillou, fails to disclose the above feature for at least the following reasons.

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The acids used in each cited reference that are within the scopes of the first and the second compounds in claims 2 and 4 of this application and therefore can be respectively classified to the first or the second compound as defined in amended claim 1 are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1

	First compound	Second compound
Peters	Malonic, malic acid (as corrosion inhibitor in Peters)	fumaric acid (as corrosion inhibitor in Peters)
'323	oxalic, malonic, tartaric acid (as corrosion inhibitor in '323)	citric, lactic acid (as corrosion inhibitor in '323)
Small	oxalic, malonic, tartaric, succinic, malic acid (as pH-adjusting/chelating agent in Small)	citric acid (as pH-adjusting/chelating agent in Small)
'680	oxalic, tartaric acid (as chelating agent in '680)	citric, lactic acid (as chelating agent in '680)
Tanabe	oxalic, malonic, malic acid (as corrosion inhibitor in Tanabe)	citric, lactic, fumaric acid (as corrosion inhibitor in Tanabe)
Cioletti	oxalic acid (as organic acid in Cioletti)	citric acid (as organic acid in Cioletti)
Guillou	oxalic, succinic acid (as organic acid in Guillou)	citric acid (as organic acid in Guillou)

Each cited reference does disclose one or more combinations of acids satisfying the definitions the first and the second compounds in amended claim 1, as shown in Table 1, and also teaches that the acids can be used in combination even though being classified to merely one type of component with only one function, i.e., corrosion inhibitor, pH-adjusting/chelating agent, chelating agent or just organic acid as indicated by the words in the parentheses in Table 1. However, in each reference, only a total amount is given for any combination of acids corresponding to the first and the second compounds *because the acids are classified to merely one type of component with only one function.*

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On the contrary, since in amended claim 1 the first compound is intended to remove residues including metal oxide, high molecular weight compounds and metal oxide-high molecular weight compounds and the second compound is intended to suppress corrosive effect toward metal materials, respective weight percentages of the first compound and the second compound are given in amended claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 and claims 2-13 dependent therefrom all patently define over the prior art.

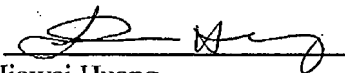
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-13 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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